

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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R 201320Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5377
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T CAIRO 9771

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG SA US

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN-SAUDI TALKS

1. FAHMY CLAIMS MOST OF THE TRIPARTITE TALKS IN JIDDA WERE DEVOTED TO THE SUDAN (SEPTTEL) AND WHAT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MUTUAL HAND WRINGING OVER LEBANON. BILATERAL TALKS WERE LIMITED , BUT HE WAS PLEASED TO SAY THAT EGYPT'S RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA ARE GOOD. THE SAUDIS HAD ASSURED GOE THAT THEY WISH TO COOPERATE WITH EGYPT IN STOPPING THE SYRIANS IN LEBANON. NOTING THE SAUDIS HAD EARLIER TILTED TOWARDS THE SYRIANS, FAHMY EXPLAINED THIS AWAY AS DUE TO SAUDI FEAR OF THE PALESTINIANS, INCLUDING ASSISNTAION. NOW, HOWEVER, THE SAUDIS, TOO, HAVE BECOME WORRIED ABOUT SYRIAN INTENTIONS VIS-A-VIS THE PLO AND LATTER'S LIKELY REACTION. HE WAS NOT EXPLICIT AS TO WHAT, IF ANYTING, PRACTICAL WAS AGREED UPON BY THE EGYPTIANS AND SYRIANS VIS-A-VIS LEBANON.

2. FAHMY CLAIMED KING KHALID -- WHO, HE NOTED, SCARCELY EVER UTTERS A WORD -- HAD BEEN INCENSED ABOUT A RECENT SPEECH BY GOVERNOR CARTER ON THE MIDDLE EAST. THE KING HAS PRACTICALLY "MEMORIZED" IT AND QUOTED IT IN DISMAY AND ANNOYANCE. THERE HAD BEEN A

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SECOND ADDRESS BY GOVERNOR CARTER DESIGNED TO SOFTEN THE

TONE OF THE FIRST, BUT --- IF FAHMY IS TO BE BELIEVED--
KHALID AND THE SAUDIS REMAIN DEEPLY DISTRUBED ABOUT THE
GOVERNOR'S VIEWS ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AT LEAST AS
EXPRESSED IN PUBLIC.
EILTS

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NNN

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